

Jason Holland Tarricone

May 19, 2006

Dan Ruben
Executive Director
Equal Justice America
Building II – Suite 204
13540 East Boundary Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Dear Mr. Ruben:

I am writing to thank you for providing me with an Equal Justice America fellowship for the spring semester of 2006. Thanks to the financial support provided by your fellowship, I was able to spend a rewarding semester with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Lawyers' Committee structures their legal internships in such a way that allows law students to work on a variety of issues overseen by a variety of different lawyers at the organization. I felt that this was an excellent structure because it allowed the legal interns to gain some experience in various subject areas. For instance, I probably would not have been able to learn about homeless rights advocacy, and the many ways that homeless people are targeted by the police for minor infractions, had the Lawyers' Committee not used this structure, because I likely would have requested placement in a different program. As it turns out, I am now very interested in how homeless people may receive citations (and greater penalties as well) for engaging in activities that most people are able to do in their own homes but which homeless people must do on the streets and in parks, such as sleeping, sitting, and drinking. These citations and high fines sometimes make it more difficult for homeless people to get off the streets, thus only contribute to the problem and cannot possibly deter behavior that homeless people have no choice but to engage in.

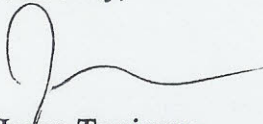
The internship structure of the Lawyers' Committee also permits law students to work with a few different lawyers. I worked with five lawyers in all, some more closely than others. The advantage of this is that students are not stuck in a program that may not have much going on that particular month or semester. In addition, if one particular supervisor is not as interested in overseeing the law student, that student can work with other supervisors as well to get more feedback. I was also able to work with people at very different stages of their legal careers. I worked with the two senior lawyers at the organization, both of whom have been involved in civil rights and public interest law for decades. It was great to see how lawyers can continue to enjoy their work after that many years. I also had the opportunity to work with a few different law fellows, lawyers who

recently graduated from law school working on fellowship projects with the organization for a few years. They had very different perspectives and were cognizant of the challenges I might be facing as a law student trying to embark on a career in public interest law.

In short, I had a great semester at a great organization, and I hope to be able to work with the Lawyers' Committee again in the future. My semester also ended with a great victory – my research and a very lengthy memo helped convince a city council to avoid approving an ordinance that would have substantially set back civil rights and affirmative action programs in one of the largest cities in California!

Many thanks again for your support. Please let me know if you are ever out in the Bay Area and would like to meet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Tarricone', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason Tarricone
Stanford Law School, Class of 2006